

FROM TINY ACORNS DO OAKS FLOURISH ...



About Oaks Church:

- Our values
 - ⇒ To be a group committed to Jesus at the centre of all we do
 - ⇒ To be a community that always tries to bless others
 - ⇒ To do all this in a relaxed and informal manner

- We are a 24/7 Church with a small group philosophy
- We are based at Oak House: a community house at 6 Elmridge, Tanhouse.
- You can find us on Facebook by searching for Oaks church Skem or online at www.oaksinskem.org



As Oaks looks ahead to 2019 and beyond our key priority is the work we do with children and young people across Tanhouse.

In this booklet, we will outline our vision for Oaks Church in 2019 and ask you to think - how can YOU be part of this? How can you support us?

WHAT IS OAKS CHURCH INVOLVED IN AT THE MOMENT?

Clubs in Schools

Our talented Children's worker Katie Whitehead runs a lunchtime club and an after-school club at Delph Side School called Creative Creations.

Using dance, craft and other creative activities these clubs explore the emotional values of HeartSmart which are covered in school, as well as helping the children to worship God and learn more about the Christian faith.



Saturdays & School Holidays

Every term-time Saturday, in Oak House, there is a group which provides a safe and appropriate space for those children with additional needs, alongside their parents.

During different school holidays Oaks runs a variety of holiday clubs for primary school age children.



Assemblies, RE and other contact with schools

Rachel, our curate, and Katie, also go into both Hillside and Delph Side schools to take assemblies, help with lessons, provide support to year 6 leavers and help them prepare for secondary school. We also hold Christingle services at Christmas and go in at Easter

and help to mark other seasons in the Church year .

Worship Services

Once a month, we hold a family celebration at the Elmridge Arms on Sunday morning. This involves puppets, craft, games and film to help us worship God in prayer and song and learn how God helps us in our everyday living.



Open Oaks @ Oak House

On Wednesday and Friday mornings Oak House is open for parents and carers to drop in for a cuppa and a catch up with supportive, friendly community. Growing out of our toddler groups, these group welcome those with pre-school age children and those who's children are now in school but still value the group for companionship!



WHAT IS PLANNED FOR 2019?

As well as continuing these current projects, and hopefully continuing to see them grow and thrive, in 2019 we will be starting 3 new initiatives.

Forest Church

For families to engage in craft, games and activities outside in the natural world around us in order to help them worship and realise the vastness of God's creation. This will be monthly on a Sunday afternoon.

Explore Together

On Saturdays, building on the club already running, we will provide, once a month, a worship space particularly for families who would value a quieter, reflective and safe space for all.

Youth Nights

Finally we intend to provide for our youth. Oaks places a high value on hospitality and believe it is important to eat and spend time together over a meal. This is at the heart of our youth nights, with food and games, films and generally hanging out together, building a sense of community. There will be a group for years 7-9 on the 3rd Saturday of the month and one for years 10-13 on the 1st Saturday of the month.



All that we are involved in at Oaks is underpinned by our vision to live full, 24/7 lives for God, encountering him in 7 sacred spaces.

To find out more about these spaces please visit www.oaksinskem.org or read the information on page 6 of this booklet.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

At Oaks we believe in living out our faith 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and that we can ALL be involved in bringing about hope, goodness, peace, love and hospitality in the name of Jesus.

How you can be involved?

Giving

We employ 2 people specifically to focus on our children's work. We receive no funding for this, and have to therefore raise money to continue employing them.

There are also other costs involved in providing resources for our work in schools, holiday clubs and other things: for example:

- 400 + oranges for Christingle
- 40 books for year 6 leavers
- Craft and puppet resources.
- Food for holiday clubs, and youth nights.

We are looking to raise £10 000 a year to continue and expand our work.

Would you consider giving regularly to Oaks Children's and Youth Work?

If 100 of us pledged to give up one cup of coffee a week at £2 we would raise £10400!

If 25 of us went without 1 pint of beer a week and gave £3 we would raise £3900!

There are pledge forms to give to Oaks included in this booklet or online at www.oaksinskem.org

Volunteer

Oaks is a small church in terms of people power, we are always in need to enthusiastic people to help out. There are lots of ways you can get involved to help your community, and you will probably meet some great people and have a LOT of fun too. We do need volunteers to help with Children's and Youth work (dependent on safeguarding and references) but there are lots of other ways you can help too!

For more information please contact Rev Duncan Petty on 01695 721537 or 07812 723567 or duncan@oaksinskem.org

At Oaks everything we do is considered to be sacred, and can be helpfully portrayed using **seven spaces**. These are:

Meeting people intentionally or otherwise in the everyday. We call this **cloister**

Having fun, sharing conversation and eating food together. We call this **refectory.**

Gaining new skills and knowledge, either together or alone. We call this **library**, a place of learning.

Discussing together the way we see the church moving forward, and bouncing ideas and concerns in an appropriate forum. We call this **chapter.**

Gathering together to worship and praise God, share prayers and hear God's word. We call this **chapel.**

Spending time alone with God to hear His voice for our lives through prayer and reading the bible. We call this **cell.**

Making our own contribution to the community and world we live amongst by using our skills and talents to work and give as will build up the community. We call this **garden..**



If you can help with our Children's and Youth work by giving financially, please fill in the form on the back of this booklet.

If the money is not immediately available you can pledge it, so that we can budget for future work.

If you are a taxpayer, please gift aid any donations as this provides us with 25% extra funds, at no effort for you except providing us with relevant details.

We will also be leaving a box, well labelled, at Oak House on a regular basis at all our groups so that you can continue to give as you feel whenever you are there.

This will sit alongside our general giving box which provides for all other activities at Oaks.

Any questions?

Please ring Rev Duncan Petty
on 07812 723567 or 01695
721537

or e-mail at

duncan

@oaksinskem.org.



Standing Order Instruction to your bank

To: Bank Name

Bank Address

.....

Please pay TSB Bank plc, Skelmersdale Branch

Sort Code: 77-57-04

Account Name: Oaks

Account No: 34252468

the sum of £ monthly on the day of the month starting on
..... / / and continuing until further notice.

From my account:

Sort Code:

Account Name:

Account No:

Please quote the reference:

(your full name)

Signed Date / /

Gift Aid declaration – for past, present & future donations

Please treat as Gift Aid donations on all qualifying gifts of money made

Today in the past 4 years in the future

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donor's details

Title ----- First name or initial(s) -----

Surname -----

Full home address -----

Postcode -----

Date -----

Signature -----

Please notify the charity or CASC if you:

Want to cancel this declaration

Change your name or home address

No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.